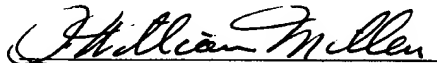


Remarks

The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to eliminate the multiple dependency of the claims in order to avoid the additional fee and to correct improper multiple dependencies. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce claims to canceled combined subject matter.

Respectfully submitted,



I. William Millen (19,544)

Representative capacity

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C.

Arlington Courthouse Plaza I

2200 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1400

Arlington VA 22201

Direct Dial: 703-812-5325

Facsimile: 703-243-6410

E-mail: millen@mwzb.com

IWM:aek

FILED: July 21, 2000

k:\job\lever\646x\prelm amdt